# Letters to the Editor:

## Pamplin Resident

Being a resident of Appomattox County, and the Pamplin area, this possible closing of the Pamplin Elem. School causes me great concern. I graduated from Pamplin High School (when it was in existence) I owe my education to this school, to its dedicated teachers and to its "home" atmosphere, all of which is true today. Parents, students, teachers, friends and neighbors are all welcomed at Pamplin at any time. For any problems, you don't need to make an appointment three weeks in advance, the teachers are willing to talk to you anytime, and problems are few because of this unique relationship.

I, also, have been very disappointed in these so called "public hearings," one of which was supposed to be called in order after the PTA meeting in Pamplin, but never was. The only "Public Hearing" that was held was Sept. 30- at the Appomattox Courthouse, and as far as I am concerned, it was a complete farce!! Anything that was related to the children and not economics was ruled out of order! It was even said by one of Mr. Walton's associates that the boiler in the school was apt to blow up at any moment, and also that if the State Fire Marshall would come in today then the school would be closed tomorrow! Well, I was told the State Fire Marshall came to the school Friday, and passed the school with only a few minor things to be done, such as, putting new bulbs in the exit lights, keeping the stairway door closed, and moving the secretary's desk out of the hall. The boiler had been inspected in June of 1981 and this also passed State Inspection. So I would like to know about all these "scare tactics."

The last thing that I would like to say is that the school board and Mr. Walton, before deciding on closing the school, should stop looking at economics for a moment and look on the effect of closing the school on the children, the parents, the teachers, the staff and the community as a whole. Also, take another look at the facts and figures and consider getting other bids besides the one estimate they did get.

Sincerely,
Ernest C. Baldwin.

## On the Democrats

Dear Sir:

Let us not forget that the Democratic Party, behind the supposedly conservative Charles Robb, is the same Democratic Party that has brought this country to the brink of disaster with 40 years of irresponsible deficit spending.

It is the same Democratic Party that sponsored Henry Howell, Jimmy Carter, and George McGovern. Robb supporters would love to elect a governor so they can fill the 5,000 state jobs with people who would make every effort to continue the spending which has brought the country to its knees.

We sent President Reagan to Washington with a mandate to return to the principles that made us great. There is a possibility that he can save us from our own greed. We must not jeopardize that possibility. Support Coleman, Miller, and Durrett on November 3.

Sincerely,
Robert Ike Williams
Rt. 2 Box 172
Appomattox, Va. 24522

## Mayor speaks

Editor:

Being the Mayor of the Town of Pamplin, it is most important that I make a few remarks about the subject of Pamplin School being closed.

After talking to many of the residents of the Town of Pamplin and the surrounding community, I find that it is their desire to keep our school here - that is to say, not to transfer the student body to Appomattox. We are all very deeply concerned about this matter for many reasons.

Many of the children attending school here are very young. Should they be transferred to Appomattox, they would have to leave home earlier in the morning and return much later in the afternoon. This would put a hardship on the working parents. We have seen the effect this has had on children in other areas.

Here the students can take part in the after school activities, they could not if transferred to Appomattox. This definitely would effect their lives and their desire to take interest in their school as expected of them.

To close our school would have a devastating effect on our town and community. At this time we are in the process of getting a public water system in the town. This in turn, would invite new industry. However, new residents would hesitate to move here if they had to send small children on long tiresome bus rides each day to another location, not to mention the danger involved in these rides. We are all aware that one of the first questions asked of new prospective residents or businesses, is the question of how far the school is.

At the time of this letter, I have attended the PTA meeting in Pamplin on September 15 and the public hearing in Appomattox on September 29. At both meetings, the School Board presented the estimated savings if Pamplin School was closed. But the savings shown, which only amounts to approximately 2% of the total school budget for Appomattox County, does not justify moving our children to another school.

The welfare of our small children is not being seriously considered. I can not imagine putting my four year old daughter on a bus with seventeen and eighteen year old boys for a lengthy bus ride each day, when we have a school so close to home. Only a narrow-minded person could overlook such things.

We are very proud of our town and the community around it. We are ever trying to improve and make this a more desirable place to live and conduct our business. What is being proposed would only be tearing down all the good things we have done here and our plans for the future. We have great hopes for our town in the future, and the faith that these hopes can be realized.

We hope the citizens of Appomattox County will try to help us.

Sincerely,
James M. Webb, Mayor
Town of Pamplin

## Good education

To The Editor:

Since there has been so much talk about the closing of Pamplin Elementary School, as a concerned parent I would like to speak out for our school, education, and our community.

I am the mother of four children, ranging in age from 6 to 21, all of whom have, are, or will be attending Appomattox County Schools. I also attended Appomattox County Schools, so I have quite a clear picture of the trend of education. I feel that our children at Pamplin are getting an excellent education in the basics: reading, writing, and arithmetic, which to me are the most important things they should be learning in elementary grades. If they learn these as they should, everything else will follow. I cannot see that we have very much going in favor of a good education any more, and if we do have something in favor of good education, as we have at Pamplin Elementary, we certainly should forget about dollars and cents and start thinking about our children's education instead. We, as parents, must remember that education is so very important, because these children will be the leaders of tomorrow. I think it is time we stop thinking so much about material things, such as how pretty the school building is or how many restrooms we have, and start finding out how much our children are really learning. We need to work raising our teachers' salaries so that we can attract the best teachers and try to weed out the teachers who aren't doing their jobs. We need to stand behind our dedicated teachers and see that they are not so overloaded with reporting every step they make to the principal or others, so that they can have more time to get right down to what they are supposed to be doing - teaching our children! Schools are getting like the Federal Government, too much red tape.

I believe in our school at Pamplin and hope that everyone else in the county feels the same way about their own school, no matter which school it may be. I think it is time for all of us as a community to stand up for education and what we believe in. I just hope and pray that the School Board will forget about self and money and think about what we, as parents, and our children need and want in the way of a good education. I feel that Pamplin School has shown that it stands for the real meaning of education (learning). Let's not take a step backward when we need so desperately to go forward.

Sincerely,
[Mrs.] Frances S. Murray

## 'Run down' school

"The old run-down Pamplin School won't be needed much longer."

This reminds me of an old person who starts creeping around with aches and pains. But most of the time you can go to the doctor and he will give you a shot and some pills, and before you know it, you will feel like new again.

The doctor won't say that you 'are old and that no one needs you any more. This is the way I feel about your old Pamplin School. I believe that with a hammer and a few nails it could be like new again.

We need it.

Sincerely,
Fannie Terry
A tax-paying citizen

## A few questions

Just a few questions concerning the Pamplin School.

Why was the school allowed to get run down and not kept up?

If the school was in such bad shape that it may blow up, why was it allowed to open this fall by the School Board?

Was this a plan to close the school? I believe we have been misled by Mr. Walton.

Sincerely,
Junius Davis

## Tragic event

Editor:

I hope that every person in Appomattox County who has loved a child or animal will read the following.

I live on a secondary road in our county. There is no speed limit posted on my road. You may drive any speed you want as long as it's not over the magic number of 55.

Saturday I lost a friend! Someone wouldn't take a few seconds of precious time. I know there are people in the world who care about no one but themselves. As long as they aren't going to be hurt, they don't take the time to care about the other guy. My family had spent two years loving, caring and training "Boots". He was a beautiful, magnificent Brittany Spaniel Bird dog. Boots was more than a pet, he was a part of our family, just as his mate, and puppies are. Everyday of his life he was cared for and he loved us just as we loved him.

That afternoon we had turned Boots out and were playing fetch with him. My husband then returned to finish working on the mailbox. A car coming down the road, saw Boots and let up off the gas slightly. Boots crossed the road. The man never slowed down. Never were the brakes applied, nor did he swerve to miss Boots. He never tried to stop or slow down until afterwards. We truly believe he wouldn't have stopped then if several people hadn't been there watching.

Now listen folks, if this was a first-time thing I would not be writing this. The families on this road have lost several pets. Two were taken to the vet, costing us money to save their lives, only to be hit again and killed. It's as if the cars are playing some kind of game. The person who hit "Boots" could tell he wasn't a stray. He could see my husband by the road hollering at Boots. A few seconds of his time is all it would cost, no more. He didn't care, it was a "damn dog", nothing important!

Sometimes my children will cross that road or are near it. We know they shouldn't be and do our best to teach them about it but sometimes children and pets are where they shouldn't be. We live in fear that the next time it won't be a loved pet but one of our children lying in the road.

[Cont'd on Page 11]


RCA VIDEO EXPO DAYS

WE'LL OPEN YOUR EYES TO TOMORROW—TODAY!

Introducing RCA's latest and best home video line. To celebrate this exciting introduction, we are offering super values on everything from ColorTrak TV to the new RCA VideoDisc System. Come in during this big event and take home RCA's best at big savings during RCA Video Expo Days. Offers end October 25, 1981.

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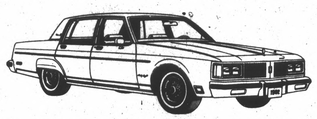

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# Obituaries

**Mrs. Ada Simpson Barbour**

GRETNA — Mrs. Ada Simpson Barbour, 74 of Lelwich Street, Gretna, died Sunday evening, September 27, at the Medical Care Center, Lynchburg.

She was born in Pittsylvania County, Oct. 10, 1906, a daughter of the late J. Lee Simpson and Lucy West Simpson. She was the widow of the late Roosevelt V. Barbour. She was a member of First Baptist Church, Gretna.

She is survived by five sons, H. D. Barbour of Hollins, Adrian Barbour, and Calvin Barbour, both of Gretna, Bobby L. Barbour of Collinsville, Ill. and Earl Barbour of Martinsville; two daughters, Mrs. Ray (Merle) Perdue of Rocky Mount and Mrs. Arlean D. Hamlett of Pamplin; two brothers, Russell W. Simpson of Blairs and Denver L. Simpson of Gretna; 977 grandchildren; and 11 great-children.

Funeral services were conducted on Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, Gretna by the Rev. W. D. Lilly. Interment followed in Gretna Burial Park.

Colbert-Moyan Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**Percy Christian [Chris] Coleman**

WARREN, Route 1 — Percy Christian (Chris) Coleman, died at 8 a.m. Friday, Oct. 2, here. He was born in Appomattox on May 11, 1911, a son of Edward Alexander Coleman and Callie Horsley Coleman.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia Rubland Coleman, one son, Ronald Christian Coleman, one daughter, June Shanks, and two granddaughters, Karen Shanks and Deborah Coleman, all of Detroit, Mich.; four sisters, Lucille Graham, Marguerite Blackburn and Shirley Clark, all of Lynchburg, and Venita Hackworth, Richmond.

The funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Monday at Sprott Funeral Home in Detroit.

Sprott Funeral Home, Detroit, was in charge of the arrangements.

**Ida Bell Hayden**

Ida Bell Hayden departed this life Saturday, Oct. 3. She was a native of Appomattox County and a member of Jackson Street Methodist Church. She was the daughter of the late George L. Fleshman and Nannie Fleshman.

She is survived by one son, Moses Hayden Jr., Bronx, N. Y., also nephews, nieces, cousins and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday at 1 p.m. from Community Funeral Home Chapel, the Rev. James Johnson officiated. Interment was in Forest Hill Burial Park.

Community Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**Miss Clincie Mae Jennings**

Miss Clincie Mae Jennings, 64, 1309 Hendricks Avenue, died Saturday, Oct. 3 in Virginia Baptist Hospital.

She was born in Pittsylvania County, a daughter of the late Grover C. Jennings and Annie Payne Jennings. She was a retired employee of Bonne Brae Laundries and Cleaners. She was a member of Faith Baptist Church.

She is survived by one sister, Mrs. T. C. (Estelle) Pankey, Appomattox; one niece, Mrs. Larrie K. (Pat) Trent, Lynchburg, and one nephew, Thomas C Fankey Jr., Appomattox.

Funeral services were conducted from Faith Baptist Church at 2 p.m. Monday by the Revs. Ronald C. Laube and Norm Redding. Interment was in the Union Hill Baptist Church cemetery, Campbell County.

Diuguid Memorial Chapel was in charge of the arrangements.

**Douglas Cleveland Kersey Sr.**

Douglas Cleveland Kersey Sr., 60, Route 4, Appomattox, died at 4:50 p.m. Thursday, October 1 in the VA Hospital in Salem. His wife was the late Grace Catherine Jordan Kersey.

Born in Charlotte County, he was a son of the late Jack Richard Kersey and Carrie Hancock Kersey. He was a retired employee of the Winebarger Corporation and was an Army veteran of World War II.

He is survived by five sons, Douglas C. Kersey Jr., Evington, William D. Kersey and Michael Dale Kersey Sr., both of Lynchburg, Danny Lee Kersey, Rustburg, and Kenneth Ray Kersey, Appomattox; a daughter, Catherine Martin, Forest; three brothers, Huly Kersey, Lynchburg, John Kersey, Altavista, and Jack Kersey, Baltimore, Md.; two sisters, Mrs. Elsie Woody, Lithia, Fla., and Mabel Jordan, Rustburg; 15 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 p.m. Saturday at Whitten Timberlake Chapel by the Rev. Michael Barbrow. Burial was in Fort Hill Memorial Park.

Whitten Timberlake Chapel was in charge of the arrangements.

**Clara Marah Powell**

Clara Marah Powell 73, 2430 Carter St., died at 11:45 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 3 in Lynchburg General Hospital. She was the wife of Atwill T. Powell.

Born in Appomattox County, she was a daughter of the late George Thomas Marah and Virginia Davis Marah. She was a member of Rocky Hock Baptist Church in Appomattox.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a son, Atwill Ray Powell, Forest; two brothers, Ashby L. Marah, Lynchburg, and Randolph P. Marah, Chesapeake; four sisters, Mrs. W. F. (Dot) Woodall and Mrs. E. R. (Jellolyn) Davis, both of Lynchburg, Mrs. D. A. (Theresa) Pugh, Appomattox, and Mrs. A. V. (Rachel) Jones, Newport News, and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 p.m. Monday at Whitten Timberlake Chapel. Burial was in Fort Hill Memorial Park.

Whitten Timberlake Chapel was in charge of the arrangements.

## Festival fun events scheduled

For a weekend of fun make plans now to attend the Annual Railroad Festival and join in all the recreation that has been planned for your enjoyment.

Mr. David Fleet of Chester, Va. is offering for 50c a ride the moon walk, merry-go-round and train. All tickets will be on sale at the festival. Once again by popular demand Mr. Jimmy Rogers will have his swings for the thrill of the very young. There will be a "Car Smash" to aid in the research of Juvenile Diabetes. What a good way to vent your frustrations and join in the fight of this disease than by taking a sledge hammer and beating up a car.

In the afternoon there will be a karate demonstration from Altavista, Va. The Department of Emergency and Energy Services and the Regional Arson Squad vans will be on display for your viewing. Mary Carwile will be doing "Computer Potraits" on paper, T-shirts and posters. Mr. Bill Britton will again have his tractor and trailer for riding you on a short scenic tour of downtown. The Appomattox Volunteer Fire Department will be open for inspection on Saturday and Sunday from 2-5 p.m.

Various organizations will have games of fun to test your skill and ability. "Hobo-Willie", "Woodsy the Owl" and all sorts, shapes and sizes of clowns will be on hand for your entertainment.

USE CLASSIFIEDS THEY DO GET RESULTS

# Nine vie for Little League Queen crown

## Event set for Oct. 10

The Appomattox Youth Association Football Homecoming will be October 10, 1981, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Candidates for the 1981 Homecoming Queens are: Mites Team Candidates: Becca Carter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carter; Melissa Garrett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Garrett; Angela Gunter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gunter, Midgets' Candidates-Stephanie Fanney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Fanny; Stacy Moore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis W. Moore; Julie Youngblood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Youngblood. T-Robs Candidates-Rhonda Ranson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Ranson; Dorinda Woodford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Barbour; Anne Pennix, granddaughter of Mrs. Pinkey Humbles.

These girls have been busy collecting money for the youth association.

All are invited to support the youth and make a contribution to these girls, and also to support these football teams by your attendance at their games.

Melissa Garrett

Stephanie Fanney

Julie Youngblood

Becca Carter

Rhonda Ranson

Angela Gunter

Dorinda Woodford

Stacy Moore

Anne Pennix

## Funds needed

Almost $10,000 ... that is the approximate amount needed by the Appomattox County Rescue Squad to meet its goal set for the 1981-82 fund drive.

If you have not made your donation, you may do so by giving your check to any member or by mailing it to Appomattox County Rescue Squad - Fund Drive, P.O. Box 57, Appomattox, VA 24522. The fund drive will continue through the month of October.


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# Home of the Week

Sunken Activity Room

## CONTEMPORARY HOME HAS OPEN FEELING

FEATURE HOMES

© By W.D. FARMER

A large sunken activity room with views to the outside and the dining room is the feature of this home.

A visual division between the foyer and the activity room but access on either side reinforces the open air feeling. False beams highlight the ceiling of the activity area.

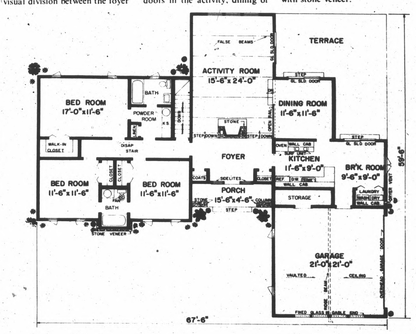
The corridor type kitchen has plenty of cabinet and counter space. It's location allows quick access to either the breakfast or dining areas.

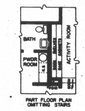
The outside terrace can be approached from the sliding glass doors in the activity, dining or breakfast rooms.

The extra large master bedroom has a powder room with a vanity, a private bath and plenty of storage space in a walk-in closet. Each of the other bedrooms has ample closet space and direct access to a full bath.

The contemporary exterior is emphasized by the roof lines and the combination of vertical siding with stone veneer.

The home contains a total of 1,785 square feet of living space. The plan is number 771, All W.D. Farmer plans include special construction details for energy efficiency, and are guaranteed to meet all F.H.A. and V.A. requirements. For further information on plan 771, write W.D. Farmer Residence Designer, Inc., P.O. Box 49463, Atlanta, Ga. 30359.

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